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COUNTRY Paraguay

SUBJECT Communist Activities in Paraguay

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The following activities of the Communist Party of Paraguay (CPP) took place during the month of September.

1. Augusto Canete appears to be directing the affairs of the CPP still from Clorinda, Argentina. Canete makes occasional trips to Asuncion, and twice Asuncion police have tried unsuccessfully to capture him.
2. No important leaders of the CPP were arrested or released by Paraguayan police during the month of September. A few Communists of lesser importance were picked up by the police, and at least one Communist prisoner was released from the public jail. Two persons were arrested for having forms and documents of the Communist front organization known as Union Democratica de Mujeres.
3. The chief interest of the Paraguayan Communists is to infiltrate and destroy the strength of the Organizacion Republicana Obrera (ORO).
4. A pamphlet allegedly put out by the Consejo Obrero del Paraguay (COP) criticizes the ORO as a political tool of the Guion Rojo which sacrifices Paraguayan workers to the ambition of their leaders. (Comment: The COP has been completely inactive since its leader, Communist Timoteo Ojeda, was jailed in March 1947. The pamphlet is the work of Communists presenting themselves as the "Provisional Executive Committee" of the COP.) The pamphlet presented a program calling for new salary raises, employment protection (cessation of the practice of firing workers for political reasons), annual paid vacations and one month's free salary at the end of the year, nationalization of the light and power company, nationalization of the petroleum enterprise in the Chaco, and nationalization of all other large foreign-owned companies in Paraguay.

This document is hereby regraded to CONFIDENTIAL in accordance with the letter of 16 October 1948 from the Director of Central Intelligence to the Archivist of the United States.
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